

MORE NEUTRALS ARE FOR PEACE

Scandinavian Nations Express
Sympathy With American
Efforts to End War.

NO OFFER OF CO-OPERATION

Norway, Sweden and Denmark Fail to
Follow Switzerland's Example—
Turkey's Reply In.

Washington, Dec. 30.—The three Scandinavian nations, Norway, Sweden and Denmark, through identical notes, the Norwegian copy of which was handed to the State Department by Minister Bryn, have expressed their lively interest toward President Wilson's proposals "looking towards the establishment of a durable peace," and their "deepest sympathy" with all efforts to shorten the war.

Unlike the Swiss government, which offered to help in any way, "no matter how modest," the Scandinavian countries make no direct offer of co-operation. This fact attracted particular interest because Norway particularly has been one of the greatest sufferers from the war among the neutrals.

South Americans May Not Act.

The State Department made public the Norwegian note without comment, and in line with the policy of silence adopted by President Wilson and Secretary Lansing, no other official information concerning peace moves was forthcoming today.

Most of the South American nations, it was indicated today in diplomatic quarters, will send notes regarding the President's note on the official understanding that it was addressed to them largely for their own information and not to solicit action. Holland, whose attitude has been the subject of much speculation, also was said to be unlikely to take any action owing to the feeling there that it might appear unneutral to one side or the other and militate against the location of the eventual peace conference in that country. Beyond the fact that the Spanish cabinet has not yet decided on Spain's action, no further information had come to the Spanish embassy today.

Turkey's Reply In.

As to the belligerents, Turkey's reply to the President's note, practically identical with those of Germany and Austria, was made public by the State Department today, and Bulgaria's is expected tomorrow.

Entente diplomats still profess to be profoundly puzzled about the fundamental purpose of the President's note and undecided whether it was designed primarily to promote peace or for America's own guidance.

The dispatch by Spain of a strong protest to Germany against submarine activities, apparently overshadowed interest among officials here in the progress of the peace negotiations.

May Mean Secret Exchanges.

Washington, Dec. 29.—A policy of absolute silence regarding the peace negotiations has been adopted by President Wilson and Secretary Lansing. It was stated officially today that all steps henceforth will be regarded as confidential, that no comment will be made on any development and that rumors will not be discussed in any way.

The decision to pursue this course was made known after the State Department had received the official texts of the German and Austrian replies to President Wilson's notes.

In many quarters the official attitude was construed as indicating that secret exchanges were expected to follow, if they did not precede the formal answers of the Entente nations to the notes of President Wilson and the Central Powers. Because of the highly confidential nature of any such negotiations, it is pointed out, the intermediary would be obliged to refrain from admitting even that they were in progress.

As far as the Entente governments are concerned, it is understood that little if any confidential information has reached here to shed more light on their attitude than has been given publicly in the speeches of their premiers and the comment of their press. Consequently, there is no disposition here to doubt that the Allies unanimously will refuse to enter any sort of peace conference until Germany has indicated clearly on what conditions she will stop fighting.

Germany Isn't Particular.

The views of the German government further are represented as being as follows:

If the Entente considers that guarantees for the future are the principal elements to be achieved, and, lacking confidence in the German government, insists upon knowing something of the

guarantees that Germany is willing to give, the Berlin government might make some declaration regarding the principles to which she is willing to subscribe, leaving details for settlement at the proposed conference. The German government considers that there is but little to be gained by going into any lengthy discussion of guarantees for the future with the present war in progress. In connection, Germany, it is asserted, never has intended that the conference suggested should result immediately in the establishment of peace. It is considered that the first conference necessarily would be of a preliminary nature to determine whether it might not be possible to end the war.

Germany Must Name Terms.

London, Dec. 28.—England and France have fully agreed upon the terms of the reply to be made to the peace proposals of the Teutonic Allies, the Associated Press learned at the foreign office today. It is hoped here that the answer may be dispatched by the end of this week, but other nations of the Entente, although agreed in principle, may require verbal alterations which would necessitate further delay.

It is expected that once this reply has been forwarded the response to President Wilson's note will follow very shortly.

It is not believed in official circles here that there exists any possibility of assembling a peace conference, as proposed in the German reply to President Wilson's note, unless Germany is willing to make suggestions in advance regarding her ideas of the terms of peace.

German Agents to The Hague.

A dispatch from The Hague to the Exchange Telegraph Company says German agents have arrived at The Hague to make preliminary arrangements for German delegates to the peace conference suggested in the German reply to President Wilson's note.

Russia's reply to the German peace proposals was telegraphed Monday to the French government, says a Reuter dispatch from Petrograd. It adds that the Swiss minister has handed to the Russian foreign minister the note of the Swiss government supporting President Wilson's note.

The promptness of the German government's reply to President Wilson's note is characterized by the Evening News as evidence of Germany's eagerness to bring the war to an end. The Standard says:

"It would be a mistake to neglect the German peace maneuvers, but it would be even more fatal to waste time over them. We trust the government will give President Wilson a perfectly courteous, but also a definite reply and then get on with the war as energetically as possible."

MAY DROP THE ADAMSON ACT

Federal Commission to Settle Disputes
Now Said to Be Favored by
Both Sides.

New York, Dec. 29.—Creation of a federal commission to decide disputes between railroads and their employees, regardless of whether the United States Supreme Court may hold the Adamson Act constitutional, was the suggestion which the chiefs of the four railway brotherhoods indicated today they might place before the conference committee of railroad managers. Representatives of the two sides went into conference here to discuss the Adamson legislation and its effects.

William G. Lee, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, discussing the idea before the conference began, said:

"I believe, and a number of the railroad managers agree, that the creation of a federal commission of eight members, four representing the roads and four the brotherhoods, sitting as a court of official adjudication, could satisfactorily dispose of whatever grievances might develop between the roads and their employees."

CRUDE OIL \$1.40 A BARREL

Prairie Company Orders Fifth Increase
Within Thirty Days—Makes
Drilling More Active.

Independence, Kas., Dec. 29.—The fifth increase within thirty days of ten cents a barrel for crude oil was posted here today by the Prairie Oil and Gas Company. The new price is \$1.40.

Bartlesville, Ok., Dec. 29.—The Prairie Oil Company raised the price of crude oil ten cents a barrel today to \$1.40 a barrel. The total daily production of the Oklahoma fields at present is 258,000 barrels.

This makes the fifth time since October the price of crude oil has been raised, the market price at that time having been ninety cents the barrel. Oil men generally are of the opinion that the price of oil will advance to \$2 by early spring. They offer as a reason that Oklahoma production is falling off and that refining companies are cutting down the amount of storage oil because of the great demand for gasoline.

NEW CAMPAIGN BILL

A Senate Measure Proposes to
Fix Amount of Political
Contributions.

WILL BE PUSHED BY LEADERS

Advertising of Betting Odds and
Wagers on the Election Would
Constitute a Felony.

Washington, Jan. 2.—Campaign contributions to a national political committee would be limited to 1½ cents per capita of the total population of the United States in the revised corrupt practices bill, completed tonight by a senate elections subcommittee, to be referred to the full committee tomorrow and placed before the senate on Wednesday.

Senators Reed, Walsh and Kenyon drafted the bill in collaboration with Senator Owen, author of the original measure, which was debated in the senate before the holidays. Senator Owen said tonight leaders of both parties had agreed to expedite passage of a bill along the lines proposed.

The per capita basis would limit the total contributions to any national committee in a presidential campaign to approximately \$1,500,000; no individual would be permitted to contribute more than \$5,000, and contributions by corporations to any campaign fund would be prohibited.

Betting Would Be Felony.

Another important provision would prohibit contributions to a national committee within ten days of a general election, and would require a complete report of contributions and disbursements to be filed with the clerk of the house of representatives ten days before the election.

Election betting and advertising of betting odds would be made a felony, and drastic provisions are proposed with relation to political advertising in newspapers and other publications. The bill provides that any person or corporation withdrawing or threatening to withdraw patronage, advertising or otherwise, from any publication for the purpose of influencing its attitude shall be guilty of a felony.

Regulate Newspapers.

Newspapers or periodicals charging for political advertising in excess of normal commercial advertising rates, or refusing non-libelous political advertisements offered at such rates when it opens its columns to other political advertising, would be denied the use of the mails for thirty days.

Further, the measure provides that no publication shall publish gratuitously any political matter during a campaign except that written by its own employees, unless the matter is signed by the real name of the author, and that no political advertising matter intended to influence an election shall be published unless marked as "paid advertising matter," with the name of the candidate or committee presenting it, attached.

NEW TAXES NOW EFFECTIVE

Collectors of the Federal Revenue
Are Making Vigorous Efforts
to Get Early Returns.

Washington, Jan. 2.—New federal taxes on incomes, estates, munition manufacturers, corporation stocks and certain businesses became effective with the new year and revenue collectors are making vigorous efforts to obtain early returns. The taxes are provided by the emergency revenue bill enacted by congress September 8.

Unmarried persons with net incomes of \$3,000 or more and heads of families with incomes of \$4,000 or more are subject to pay a normal tax of 2 per cent instead of the present rate of 1 per cent and additional taxes are imposed on incomes of more than \$20,000 by a graduated scale running from 1 to 13 per cent. A tax of 2 per cent is made on the income of corporations with stock valued at \$75,000 or more. The former rate was 1 per cent.

ARIZONA HAS 2 GOVERNORS

Phoenix, Ariz., Jan. 2.—Thomas E. Campbell, Republican, was inaugurated governor of Arizona today. There were no inaugural ceremonies for Gov. G. W. P. Hunt, incumbent, who claims the office and is contesting Campbell's election, but when Governor Campbell went to the executive offices he found them locked and a deputy sheriff on guard.

Governor Campbell delivered his inaugural address to a great crowd that filled the capitol grounds. There was no serious disturbance. Scores of armed deputies were scattered throughout the assemblage.

"My office is the saddle. I am the governor of Arizona. My desk will be at the capitol in the morning and I will be on the job."

PRINCE ANTON KARL



Prince Anton Karl of Hohenzolern, brother of the king of Roumania, is one of the commanders of the German forces invading Roumania, according to a dispatch from Jassy. The prince has issued a proclamation to the people of the invaded territory, the report adds, in which he says: "Compose yourselves. Go on with your business. I have come to punish your felon of a king."

CARRANZA NOT READY TO SIGN

De Facto Chief Asks for Modification
of Protocol Agreed Upon at
Atlantic City, N. J.

Washington, Dec. 29.—One more appeal for modification of the protocol providing for the withdrawal of American troops from Mexico is made by General Carranza in a message delivered to Secretary Lane today by Luis Cabrera, chairman of the Mexican members of the joint commission. The Mexican first chief replied to the insistent American demand that the protocol signed by his spokesmen at Atlantic City be ratified with an 800-word document in which he failed to accede to the demand, but refrained from writing anything that could be construed as a flat repudiation.

The latest suggestions for changes in the agreement now will be considered by the three American representatives—Secretary Lane, Dr. John R. Mott and Judge George Gray. Secretary Lane advised his colleagues late today of the character of the reply and asked them to meet him here as soon as they conveniently could.

Early next week a joint session of the Mexican-American commission will be held, at which the Americans will give the Mexicans their answer, and on its nature depends the future course of the commissioners, who were directed more than four months ago to effect, if possible, the adjustment of questions at issue between the two countries.

Neither Cabrera nor Secretary Lane would discuss the nature of Carranza's reply. Cabrera left for New York soon after its delivery and Secretary Lane declined to reveal its character until it had been submitted to his colleagues. The same reticence was displayed at the Mexican embassy.

The Mexican commissioners appeared confident that no insuperable barrier had been raised by Carranza. It was asserted that the utmost care had been exercised to keep out of the reply any expressions or sentiments that might make the situation more complex or that would in any way offend the representatives of the American government.

Choked to Death on Candy.

Kenosha, Wis., Dec. 27.—Janice Elizabeth Rush, 4-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Rush, choked to death on a piece of Christmas candy yesterday.

CONDENSED NEWS ITEMS

—Five hundred gallons of whiskey, wine and beer were poured into a city water wagon at Phoenix, Ariz., and the streets of the business section sprinkled with the liquor. Two hundred motor cars and several floats formed a parade.

—Hot Springs attorneys have received notice from Little Rock that the secretary of state had issued an order canceling the charter of the Western Union Telegraph Company and prohibiting it from doing business in the state of Arkansas.

JAPS HELP MEXICO

Carranza is Receiving Arms
and Munitions From Land
of the Mikado.

FIRST SHIPMENT HAS ARRIVED

Gold Sent in Payment for War Supplies—De Facto Chief Seeks Continuation of Conference.

El Paso, Tex., Dec. 30.—The Carranza government has lately transmitted the sum of a million pesos gold to Japan in payment for war munitions, it was learned here tonight from a well-informed source. One shipment of munitions has already been received, according to this source, and the second is due. It is said to consist of artillery shell and field guns, including anti-aircraft cannon.

The same authority claims to have information that the new cartridge factories established by the Carranza government, with a capacity of 75,000 cartridges a day each, are equipped with the latest type of American machinery, shipped and sold to a firm in Spain and then re-shipped to Mexico by way of Vera Cruz.

When the rebel leader, Zapata, occupied the City of Mexico he is known to have sent away the machinery from the old cartridge factory there to the south for his own use. This machinery was out of date.

Mexican newspapers at the time the new factory was established gave much space to describing their equipment, which they said was of newest pattern.

Carranza Seeks More Talk.

Washington, Dec. 30.—Continuation of the conferences of the Mexican-American joint commission, without regard to the question of withdrawing American troops from Mexico, is proposed by General Carranza in his message refusing to ratify the Atlantic City protocol. Coupled with this suggestion, however, is a new appeal for recall of the Pershing expedition and a declaration that such action by the United States would permit adjustment of all remaining questions "within a week."

ASK FACTS FROM LAWSON

Chairman of House Committee Wires
Boston Man to "Put Up or
Shut Up."

Washington, Dec. 30.—The controversy which has followed Congressman Wood's resolution for investigation of whether any member of President Wilson's official family profited in the stock market because of "inside information" on the President's peace notes got into semi-official form today when Chairman Henry of the House rules committee telegraphed Thomas W. Lawson of Boston to come to Washington and substantiate his published statements that he knew of the so-called leak and his prediction that there would be another.

"Put up or shut up," said Chairman Henry's telegram. "Cease slandering and libeling Congress and public officials or make good your charges."

Mr. Henry announced that he would reintroduce his bill next Tuesday to regulate the New York Stock Exchange.

"If Mr. Lawson states the truth about Wall Street and an alleged leak," he said, "it conclusively shows that the bill introduced by me in the Sixty-third Congress to regulate the New York Stock Exchange should be speedily passed and should even be made more drastic."

AGAIN THREATEN TO STRIKE

If Railroads Disobey Adamson Law the
Men Will Vote on Action,
Leaders Say.

New York, Dec. 30.—The four hundred thousand railroad employees affiliated with the four trainmen's brotherhoods will decide the next step which will be taken by their authorized committee, which has been handling their side of the controversy over the operation of the Adamson Act, it was announced here today by the brotherhood chiefs.

The brotherhood leaders, after an unannounced conference here this afternoon, gave out a statement indicating their fear that the pending legislation and possible future legal steps on the part of the railroads, would delay indefinitely the investigation by President Wilson's special committee, headed by Gen. George W. Goethals.

The statement was signed by acting President Sheppard of the railway conductors; W. G. Lee, president of the trainmen; W. S. Stone, chief of the locomotive engineers; W. S. Carter, president of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers.